

Message Text

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SUBJECT: SOVIET PAPER CONTINUES ATTACK AGAINST US CORRESPONDENTS

REF: MOSCOW 10698

FOLLOWING IS AN UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION OF AN UNSIGNED
ARTICLE IN JULY 7 LITERATURNAYA GAZETA UNDER THE HEAD-
LINE: "INVOLUNTARY SPY - HA-HAFZ

" WHAT IS JOURNALISM? DICTIONARIES GIVE THIS DEFINITION:
'JOURNALISM - LITERARY AND PUBLICITY ACTIVITY IN MAGA-
ZINES OR NEWSPAPERS.'"

"AND WHAT IS ESPIONAGE? WE TURN AGAIN TO THE DICTION-
ARIS: 'ESPIONAGE - CRIMINAL ACTIVITY CONSISTING OF SEEK-
ING OUT AND OBTAINING BY SECRET MEANS INFORMATION CON-
TAINING STATE (ECONOMIC, POLITICAL, MILITARY) SECRETS,
AND IN REPORTING OR TRANSMITTING THIS INFORMATION TO A
FOREIGN GOVERNMENT OR TO ORGANIZATIONS OR PERSONS INIMICAL
TO THE NATION.'"

"SO WE SEE THAT JOURNALISM IS ONE THING, AND ESPIONAGE
IS QUITE ANOTHER."

"BUT THERE ARE NO RULES WITHOUT EXCEPTIONS. LITERA-
TURNAYA GAZETA, IN ITS ARTICLE 'THERE YOU HAVE IT,
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GENTLEMEN* (LG NO. 25, 1976), TOLD IN DETAIL OF ONE OF

THESE EXCEPTIONS. FACTS AND DOCUMENTS SET FORTH IN THE ARTICLE CONVINCINGLY SHOWED THAT THREE AMERICAN CORRESPONDENTS IN MOSCOW - FRIENDLY (NEWSWEEK), WREN (NEW YORK TIMES) AND KRIMSKY (ASSOCIATED PRESS) - ARE ENGAGED IN ACTIVITIES CLOSER TO THE 'HERIOC DEEDS' OF IAN FLEMING'S NOTORIOUS HEROES THAN TO JOURNALISTS WORK."

"AS MIGHT BE EXPECTED - AND IT WAS CARRIED THAT SAME EVENING BY 'VOICE OF AMERICA' (AND ALSO OTHER ORGANS OF THE MASS MEDIA IN THE US) - 'THE THREE AMERICAN CORRESPONDENTS IN MOSCOW REJECTED THE NEW ACCUSATION OF LITERATURNAYA GAZETA THAT THEY WERE CARRYING OUT ESPIONAGE ACTIVITY IN THE SOVIET UNION FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE US.'"

"BUT AFTER ALL, ONE HAS TO SOMEHOW EXPLAIN THEIR ACTIONS, TO ANSWER THE HARD EVIDENCE* AND HERE TO THE RESCUE COMES 'JOURNALISTIC RESOURCEFULNESS.' WITHOUT THE SLIGHTEST TRACE OF EMBARRASSMENT, FRIENDLY STATED THAT HIS 'INTEREST IN MATTERS OF AMILITARY NATURE IS COMPLETELY UNDERSTANDABLE (BF - EDITOR) AND IS EXPLAINED BY THE FACT THAT IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO LEARN THE FACTUAL STATE OF AFFAIRS FROM SOVIET NEWSPAPERS.'"

"THERE IT IS* IT COMES OUT THAT THE SOVIET PRESS FORCES FRIENDLY TO SPY. AGAINST HIS WILL. IN OPPOSITION TO HIS WISHES. THAT IS TO SAY, 'AN INVOLUNTARY SPY.'"

" STARTLING LOGIC* IT WOULD BE INTERESTING TO SEE HOW US AUTHORITIES WOULD REACT IF SOVIET CORRESPONDENTS ACCREDITED IN WASHINGTON, NOT FINDING ANY MILITARY SECRETS IN THE LOCAL PRESS, BEGAN TO TRY TO FIND THEM OUT FROM AMERICAN MILITARY PERSONNEL. WOULD THAT INTEREST IN MATTERS OF A MILITARY NATURE BE 'COMPLETELY UNDERSTANDABLE?'"

"AND MORE: IN THE WORDS OF THE MOSCOW CORRESPONDENT OF THE WASHINGTON POST PETER OSNOS (IN AN ARTICLE PUBLISHED IN THAT PAPER ON JUNE 26), FRIENDLY IS AWAITING A UNCLASSIFIED

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'DOCUMENT' FROM THE CIA, 'IN WHICH IT WOULD BE STATED THAT HE HAS NEVER HAD ANY CONNECTIONS WITH THAT AGENCY.'"

"IF MR. FRIENDLY RECEIVES SUCH A UNIQUE 'DOCUMENT,' WON'T THAT LEAD IN THE WEST TO ITS OWN SORT OF CHAIN REACTION? SUCH AS, FOR INSTANCE, IF SICILIAN 'MAFIOSI,' HAVING BUMPED OFF SOMEONE, WERE TO PRESENT A 'DOCUMENT' FROM THE MAFIA LEADERSHIP STATING THAT

THEY DID NOT BELONG TO THAT 'ORGANIZATION'. OR IF
GIRLS OF LOOSE BEHAVIOR WERE TO BEGIN TO STOCK UP ON
REFERENCES FROM MADAMS, ATTESTING THAT THE BEARER IS
STILL A VIRGINAL OLD MAID..."

AND MEANWHILE, WHILE AWAITING HIS 'REFERENCES.' MR.

FRIENDLY IS NOT INACTIVE: HE HAS FILED A COMPLAINT AGAINST
'LG' IN THE RAYON COURT, DEMANDING 'SATISFACTION'. THIS
'SHOCK' SUITS US FINE, SINCE OUR EDITORIAL BOARD
HAS AT ITS DISPOSAL SUCH MATERIALS CONCERNING THE 'WORK'
OF THE NEWSWEEK CORRESPONDENT AS WOULD, WE ARE SURE, LAY
THE GROUNDWORK NOT ONLY FOR THE PUBLIC CONDEMNATION OF
THIS GENTLEMAN BUT ALSO FOR THE CRIMINAL PUNISHMENT PRO-
VIDED FOR BY SOVIET LAWS."
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